

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS

FIGS. 1, 2A, 2B, and 3 have been amended to include a legend "Prior Art." FIGS. 4(F) and 4A(F1) have been amended to include a reference numeral "7." FIG. 4A(F2) has been amended to include a reference numeral "6." FIG. 5(F) has been amended to include a reference numeral "12." FIG. 6(F1) has been amended to include reference numerals "11" and "17." FIG. 7(F) has been amended to include a reference numeral "6." Replacement figures incorporating these amendments are being submitted concurrently herewith.

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-16 are pending in this application, with claims 1 and 16 being independent. Claims 1, 3-8, 10, and 12-14 have been amended. Claim 16 has been added. No new matter has been introduced by the present amendments or added claim. For the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims as currently amended are patentable over the cited prior art.

Drawings

FIGS. 1, 2A, 2B, 3, 4(F), 4A(F1), 4A(F2), 5(F), 6(F1), and 7(F) were objected to due to minor typographical errors. FIGS. 1, 2A, 2B, 3, 4(F), 4A(F1), 4A(F2), 5(F), 6(F1), and 7(F) have been amended to overcome this objection. Replacement figures incorporating these amendments are being submitted concurrently herewith.

Abstract of the Disclosure

The Abstract of the Disclosure was objected to for minor typographical errors. The Abstract of the Disclosure has been amended to overcome this objection.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-15 were objected to due to various informalities. The claims have been amended to overcome this objection. These amendments, among others, include replacing the recitation “the information” in claim 10 with “information” at its first occurrence. Applicants respectfully submit that “the information” recited in claim 10 is different from the “type information” also recited therein. Indeed, the “type information” is obtained by performing an

AND operation between “the information” read at the address offset and a data frame comparison mask in the rule. Therefore and in contrast to the Examiner’s suggestion, Applicants have not change the recitation “the information” with the “type information” in claim 10.

Claim rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. The claims have been amended to overcome this rejection. Along these lines, claim 6 has been amended to more clearly indicated that claim 6 is a method claim.

Double Patenting

Claims 1, 3, and 5 were provisionally rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 6, and 7 of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/765,283 (“He ‘283”) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication Number 2004/0076166 (“Patenaude”). Additionally, claims 1, 3, and 5 were provisionally rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 6, and 7 of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Number 10/765,205 (“He’205”) in view of Patenaude. Claim 1 has been amended to overcome these rejections. In particular, claim 1 has been amended to include features of claim 2, which is considered allowable over the cited prior art. For at least this reason, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter recited in claims 2-4 and 6-15. In reliance on the Examiner's assertion, the limitations of allowable claim 2 have been incorporated into independent claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claim 1 along with its dependent claims.

New Claims

Independent claim 16 is newly added and includes the limitations of allowable claim 2. Therefore, for at least the reasons presented above with respect to claim 1, Applicants respectfully request consideration and allowance of claim 16.

Claim Rejections – Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Patenaude. This rejection is rendered moot in view of the amendments incorporating allowable claim 2 into claim 1.

Conclusion

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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